

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 9, line 9 and ending at page 9, line 17 to read, as follows.

--Figures 6(A), 6(B), ~~[[6(B)]]~~ and 6(C) are schematic sectional views of the toner supply container in the first embodiment of the present invention, which show how the toner in the container is discharged from the container.

Figures 7(A), 7(B), and 7(C) are a perspective view, front view, and left side view, respectively, of the toner conveying member in the first embodiment of the present invention.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 8 and ending at page 10, line 14 to read, as follows.

--Figures 11(A) ~~[[11(a)]]~~ and 11(B) ~~[[11(b)]]~~ are schematic sectional views of the portion of a toner supply container in accordance with the present invention, where its partition wall meets the internal wall of its cylindrical wall, and show the positional relationship between the partition wall and internal wall of the cylindrical wall.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 10, line 19 and ending at page 10, line 27 to read, as follows.

--Figures 13(A) ~~[[13(a)]]~~ and 13(B) ~~[[13(b)]]~~ are schematic plan and side views of the driving force transmission portion of a toner supply container in accordance with the present invention, and show the structure thereof.

Figures 14(A) ~~[[14(a)]]~~ and 14(B) ~~[[14(b)]]~~ are schematic plan and side views of the driving force transmission portion of another toner supply container in accordance with the present invention, and show the structure thereof.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 11, line 20 and ending at page 11, line 25 to read, as follows.

--Figures 18(A), 18(B), ~~[[18(B)]]~~ and 18(C) are schematic sectional views of the toner supply container in the second embodiment of the present invention, which show how the toner in the container is discharged from the container, as the container is rotated in the counterclockwise direction.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 12, line 3 and ending at page 12, line 6 to read, as follows.

--Figure 20 ~~[[2D]]~~ is a perspective view of another toner conveying Member different in the configuration of the inclined rib from the conveying members in the first and second embodiments.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 18, line 22 and ending at page 19, line 4 to read, as follows.

--Next, referring to Figures 4, 5(A), and 5(B), ~~figures 4 and 5~~, the toner supply container in the first embodiment of the present invention will be described. Figure 4 is a partially broken perspective view of the toner supply container in the first embodiment of the present invention. Figure 5(A) is a sectional view of the toner supply container, as seen

from the front side of the copying machine, and Figure ~~figure~~ 5(B) is a plan view of the toner supply container, as seen from the plane A-A in Figure 5(A).--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 19, line 15 and ending at page 19, line 22 to read, as follows.

--As shown in Figures 4, 5(A), and 5(B), ~~4 and 5~~, the toner bottle 1A (bottle or main body of the container) is generally hollow-cylindrical, and a cylindrical portion is formed projected from one end surface at its central position. The free end side of the cylindrical portion defines an opening 1a for discharging the toner into the image forming apparatus (developing device) side.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 20, line 19 and ending at page 21, line 20 to read, as follows.

--On each of the sides of the flat part of the feeding member 3, there are provided a plurality of projections 3a (guiding portion) which is extended inclined with respect to the rotation axis a-a of the bottle 1A toward the opening (when the feeding member takes a position effective to guide the toner downwardly toward the opening, that is, when the feeding member 3 takes the position shown in Figure 7(B).) ~~(B) of Figure 7~~). The flat plate-like region has a function of supporting the inclined projections. One end of the inclined projection 3a closest to the opening 1a continues to the cylindrical portion defining the opening 1a. Finally, the toner slides down on a surface of the closest projection 3a with the rotation of the feeding member 3 to the cylindrical portion and then

is discharged through the opening 1a. The one end of the projection 3a closest to the opening 1a may be extended to a neighborhood of the cylindrical portion.

As shown in Figure 5(B), ~~[[5, (B),]]~~ the projections 3a are provided on both of the sides of the flat plate portions of the feeding member 3 in a rotational symmetry arrangement such that toner is fed toward the opening 1a with a unidirectional rotation of the toner bottle. With each of 180° rotations of the feeding member together with the model, the toner lifted by the projections slides down on the surface of the projections, by which the toner is gradually fed toward the opening and to the opening.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 22, line 5 and ending at page 23, line 7 to read, as follows.

--Referring to Figures 6(A), 6(B), 7(A), and 7(B), ~~[[6, 7,]]~~ the toner discharging principle of the toner supply container 1 of this embodiment will be described. Figures 6(A), 6(B), and 6(C) are Figure 6 is a partially sectional views ~~[[view]]~~ taken along a line A-A of Figure 5(A). ~~[[5.]]~~

The toner bottle 1A rotates integrally with the feeding member in the direction indicated by an arrow a. In the toner bottle 1A, the toner particle exist in the bottom portion as indicated by dots. The plate-like portion of the feeding member 3 is provided with holes or openings which will be described hereinafter. The feeding member has a toner scooping or lifting portions constituted by the plate-like portion without the holes and the outside portions of the projections, as indicated by 3y in Figure 7(A). ~~[[7, (A).]]~~ In the state shown in Figure 6(A), (A) of Figure 6, the lift portion is within the toner powder at

the bottom of the bottle. With the rotation of the bottle integrally with the feeding member 3, the lift portion immersed in the toner powder gradually lifts the toner against the gravity.

More particularly, in this embodiment, the toner is lifted or raised in a space defined by the lift portion (3y region in Figure 7(A)) ~~(A) of Figure 7~~) and the inner surface, contacted thereto, of the bottle. The lift portion is defined by such a portion of the inclined projection as takes the upper position when the feeding member takes a position for guiding the toner downwardly toward the opening (See Figure 7B) ~~(Figure 7, (B) for example).~~--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 23, line 16 and ending at page 24, line 9 to read, as follows.

--With rotation of the bottle, a part of the toner scooped or lifted by the feeding member 3, as shown in Figure 6(B), ~~(B) of Figure 6~~, is guided downwardly toward the opening by the gravity with the aid of the inclined projections 3a and a portion 3x of the plate-like portion supporting them Figure 6(B) ~~(B) of Figure 6~~ and t2 in Figure 7(B). ~~(B) of Figure 7.~~

A part of the toner lifted by the lift portion of the feeding member 3 is not fed or guided toward the opening, but drops through the hole portion 3c by the gravity as shown in Figure 6(B), ~~(B) of Figure 6~~, and t1 in Figure 7(B). ~~(B) of Figure 7.~~ Again, the toner can be stirred by the dropping through the hole portion 3c together with the guiding and feeding of the lifted toner.

By repeating the above-described actions, the toner in the bottle 1A is gradually fed toward the discharge opening, while being stirred. Finally, the toner is discharged through

the opening 1a from the portion above the inclined projection 3a continuing to the opening 1a, as shown in Figure 6(C). ~~(C) of Figure 6~~--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 26, line 12 and ending at page 26, line 18 to read, as follows.

--Referring to Figures 7(A) and 7(B), ~~Figure 7~~, the toner stirring effect will be described.

Figure 7(A) ~~[[7]]~~ shows a perspective view of a feeding member 3 according to an embodiment of the present invention ~~[[ (A) ]]~~, and Figure 7(B) shows a front view thereof and a left-hand side view thereof. ~~thereof (B)~~--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 28, line 12 and ending at page 28, line 21 to read, as follows.

--Referring to Figures 8(A) and 8(B), ~~Figure 8~~, the description will be made as to the inclined projection 3a which is significantly influential to the stirring and feeding performance of the toner. In Figure 8(A), ~~[[8,]]~~  $\theta$  is an inclination angle of the inclined projection 3a relative to the bottle rotation axis a-a, and dimension p is an interval between adjacent inclined projections 3a. In addition, s is a distance through which the toner is fed by the inclined projection 3a, b is a width of the inclined projection 3a.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 29, line 23 and ending at page 30, line 3 to read, as follows.

--In the foregoing analysis, the toner feeding distance  $s$  by the inclined projection is assumed as a length thereof projected on the rotation axis. The lower side of the inclined projection (when the feeding member guides the toner downwardly toward the opening (Figure 7(B), ~~(B) of Figure 7~~, for example)) is away from the inside the surface of the bottle. The structure is advantageous.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 30, line 10 and ending at page 30, line 15 to read, as follows.

--On the other hand, as shown in Figure 7(B), ~~(B) of Figure 7~~, it is preferable that upper side of the inclined projection (See Figure 7(B), ~~(B) of Figure 7~~, for example) is as close as possible to the inner surface of the bottle, and further preferably it is contacted into the inner surface of the bottle.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 30, line 21 and ending at page 31, line 1 to read, as follows.

--It is not necessary that all of the inclined projections 3a are inclined to the same inclination angle  $\theta$ . As shown in Figure 9(A), ~~[[7, (A),]]~~ the inclined projections 3a may be set differently for the inclined projections 3a (inclination angle  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots$ ). Similarly, the intervals  $p$  are not necessary regular, but may be set for the inclined projections 3a (intervals  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \dots$ ).--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 32, line 8 and ending at page 32, line 11 to read, as follows.

--As shown in Figure 9(B), [[9, (B),]] the width of the inclined projection 3a is selectable to adjust the toner feeding force, similarly to the inclination angles  $\theta$  and the intervals p.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 35, line 8 and ending at page 36, line 2 to read, as follows.

--In the example [[a)]] of Figure 11(A), [[11,]] the main body of the container has two parallel projection 1e in the form of ribs extending in parallel to the direction of the axis, and the feeding member 3 is inserted into the gap provided between the projections 1e. This structure is suitable for the manufacturing of the main body 1A through the injection molding. The free end surface of the feeding member 3 is not contacted to the main body 1A of the container, but the toner does not pass through, and therefore, no decrease of feeding efficiency or the increase of remaining toner can be effectively prevented. The projections 1e in the form of the ribs may be provided only at a downstream side of the feeding member 3 with respect to the rotational direction of the container.

Figure 11(B) [[11, (b)]] shows another example, wherein a recess 1f is provided extended in the axial direction, and the feeding member 3 is placed in the recess 1f. This example is suitable for the main body 1A manufactured through the blow molding. The toner feeding efficiency and the remaining toner are the same as with example (a).--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 38, line 14 and ending at page 38, line 24 to read, as follows.



--In Figures 13(A) and 13(B), ~~[[13,]]~~ a projection 3f is provided on the outer surface of the flange portion 3b, and it is engaged with a drive transmitting portion provided in the main assembly of image forming apparatus to receive the rotational driving force. Figures 14(A) and 14(B) show ~~Figure 14 shows~~ another example in which a gear portion 1d is formed around a circumference of the main body 1A, as shown in these Figures, ~~this Figure~~, by which the gear portion 1d is in meshing engagement with a driving gear provided in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus to receive the rotational driving force.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 40, line 25 and ending at page 41, line 3 to read, as follows.

--Referring to Figure 16(A), 16(B), and 16(C), ~~Figure 16~~, the second embodiment will be described.

In these Figures, ~~Figure 16~~, the inclined projections 3a on the opposite sides of the plate-like portions are in a mirror symmetry relationship with respect to a rotation axis a-a of the toner bottle 1A.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 41, line 19 and ending at page 41, line 26 to read, as follows.

--Figures 17(A), 17(B), and 17(C) show ~~Figure 17 shows~~ a case of clockwise rotation of the toner bottle 1A, and Figures 18(A), 18(B), and 18(C) show ~~Figure 18 shows~~ a case of counterclockwise rotation of the toner bottle 1A.

In the steps shown in Figures 17(A), 17(B), 18(A), 18(B), ~~[[17, 18,]]~~ the toner is scooped by the scooping or lift portion of the feeding member 3. ~~3 through the steps shown by (a) and (b) of these Figures.~~ The toner then slides down on the inclined projection 3a toward the opening as shown in Figures 17(C) and 18(C). ~~[[ (c). ]]~~--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 45, line 19 and ending at page 45, line 24 to read, as follows.

--Into the toner supply container of the first embodiment (Figures 4 through 7(C), ~~[[4 - 7),]]~~ 200g of toner is filled, and the toner supply container was left placed vertically with the opening 1a at the bottom side for 40 days under a high temperature and high humidity ambience (temperature 40°C ~~temperature40°C~~ and humidity 80%. ~~humidity80%.~~--